

Amendments To Claims

1-64. (Cancelled).

65. (Withdrawn) A system, comprising:

data store that holds a set of material for presenting a variety of stimuli each for representing a corresponding object and for presenting a set of corresponding questions pertaining the objects such that the questions include a question that is selected to exercise a capability of a human being to perform common sense reasoning with respect to a capability of the corresponding object, the data store also holding a set of correct answers for the questions;

service provider of a computer-related service that in response to an attempt to subscribe to the computer-related service generates a communication that presents one of the objects and the corresponding question using the material in the data store and that obtains an answer to the question presented in the communication and that compares the answer to the corresponding correct answer from the data store.

66. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 65, wherein the service provider measures a response time to the question in the communication and determines whether the response time indicates that the question was not answered by a human being.

67. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 65, wherein the material includes\_a set of pre-selected images.

68. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 67, wherein the service provider varies the pre-selected images when generating the communication.

69. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 65, wherein the material

includes\_a set of pre-selected sounds.

70. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 65, wherein one or more of the stimuli are adapted to a disability of the human being.

71. (New) A method for determining whether an originator of an access to a computer-based system is a human being or a computer-based program imitating a human being, comprising:

generating a computer-based message defining a human test which when rendered by another computer-based system presents a stimulus perceptible by one or more human senses including a question pertaining to the stimulus;

transmitting the computer-based message to the originator and receiving a computer-based message containing an answer to the question from the originator and determining the originator is the computer-based program if a time spent by the originator answering the question is too fast for a human.

72. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising comparing the answer to a correct answer such that the question is selected to test human knowledge regarding a capability of an object depicted by the stimulus.

73. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising obtaining a set of material for rendering the stimulus and the question from a data store holding a set of pre-selected material for a variety of stimuli and questions.

74. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein obtaining a set of material comprises varying one or more visual characteristics of the stimulus.

75. (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising adapting the stimulus to a human disability.

76. (New) A method for determining whether an originator of an access to a computer-based system is a human being or a computer-based program imitating a human being, comprising:

generating a computer-based message defining a human test which when rendered by another computer-based system presents a stimulus perceptible by one or more human senses such that the stimulus depicts an object and a question pertaining to the object wherein the question is selected to test human knowledge regarding a capability of the object;

transmitting the computer-based message to the originator and receiving a computer-based message containing an answer to the question from the originator and determining whether the answer is correct.

77. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising determining whether a time spent by the originator answering the question is too fast for a human.

78. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the object is a living thing.

79. (New) The method of claim 78, wherein the stimulus depicts the living thing visually.

80. (New) The method of claim 78, wherein the stimulus depicts the living thing using sound.

81. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the object is an inanimate object.

82. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein the stimulus depicts the inanimate object visually.

83. (New) The method of claim 81, wherein the stimulus depicts the inanimate object using sound.

84. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising varying one or more visual characteristics of the object.

85. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising adapting the stimulus to a human disability.

86. (New) The method of claim 76, wherein the question is selected to exercise a human capability to parse spoken speech.

87. (New) The method of claim 76, further comprising obtaining a set of material for rendering the stimulus and the question from a data store that holds a set of pre-selected material for a variety of stimuli and questions.

88. (New) The method of claim 87, wherein obtaining a set of material comprises varying one or more characteristics of the stimulus.